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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

TOMONARI et al.

Atty. Ref.: 249-245

Serial No. 10/053,576

Group: 2834

Filed: January 24, 2002

Examiner: T. Dougherty

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

* * * * *

May 16, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In order to place the above-identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-35 and add new claims 36-68 as follows:

--36. (New) A semiconductor microvalve comprising:

a semiconductor substrate;

a flexible area isolated from said semiconductor substrate and displaced in response to temperature change;

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